

Message Text

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TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: FIRST WEEK

ROUND VI - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 12

1. SUMMARY: FIRST WEEK OF ROUND VI CONSISTED OF ONE PLENARY, TWO RESTRICTED AND TWO WORKING GROUP I MEETINGS. DOCUMENT FORMAT DISCUSSED AT RESTRICTED MEETINGS. US MAINTAINS ITS PREFERENCE FOR CURRENT FORMAT OF TREATY AND ONE PROTOCOL. AT SECOND WORKING GROUP MEETING, SOVIETS SAID: (A) FORMAT NOT MATTER OF PRINCIPLE; (B) THEIR LANGUAGE IN ARTICLE VI INTENDED TO MEAN THAT EQUIPMENT IS TO BE USED BY OBSERVERS; (C) THEY WILL PRESENT PROPOSAL ON VERIFICATION EXPENSES. US VERIFICATION EQUIPMENT AND LOCATION OF SLIFERS DISCUSSED IN PLENARY: (A) SOVIETS PREPARED SHOW US SIDE THEIR INSTRUMENTATION SOMETIME; (B) US WILL CONSIDER SLIFER SEPARATION FROM CANISTER OF 2 TIMES CUBE ROOT OF YIELD MEASURED FROM CENTER OF CANISTER TO BOTTOM OF SLIFER AND SOVIETS WILL CONSIDER DROPPING FIVE METER STAND-OFF REQUIREMENT; AND (C) SOVIETS WILL CONSIDER SWITCH ALTERNATIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. RESTRICTED MEETING JANUARY 27 SPECIFIED MAJOR ISSUES, WHICH IDENTIFIED BY SOVIETS AS: (A) YIELD LIMITE EXCEPTIONS ON SINGLE EXPLOSIONS AND AGGREGATE LIMIT; (B) DURATION; (C) YIELD LEVEL TO TRIGGER

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OBSERVER PRESENCE; (D) OBSERVER FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT;

(E) EQUIPMENT AND ITS USE AT EXPLOSION SITE; (F) CONFIRMATION OF GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION; (G) NUMBER OF OBSERVERS AND TIME OF THEIR ARRIVAL; (H) SLIFER PLACEMENT; AND (I) FORMAT. US SIDE AGREED THAT ABOVE ARE MAIN ISSUES.

3. PROTOCOL TEXTS WERE COMPARED AT WORKING GROUP I MEETING JANUARY 28. ONLY SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE DETECTED WAS THAT SOVIET VERSION SHOWS AGREEMENT OF SOVIET ARTICLE VI PARA 1 AND US ARTICLE VII PARA 1, AND THIS NOT AGREED. SOVIET LANGUAGE NOT CLEAR WHO WILL "USE" EQUIPMENT. LEGAL ARTICLE LANGUAGE FOR BRACKETED TEXT GIVEN SOVIETS FOR STUDY.

4. AT RESTRICTED MEETING JANUARY 28, STOESSEL REAFFIRMED US PREFERENCE FOR OUR FORMAT. BECAUSE OF TECHNOLOGY SHARED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND COMPLEX TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF AGREEMENT, FINAL DOCUMENT MUST BE CLEAR, THOROUGH, AND PRECISE. AT SAME TIME, US FORMAT APPROACH SATISFIES SOVIET INTERESTS TO DEVELOP FUTURE DETAILS AND FUTURE NEEDS.

5. WORKING GROUP I MEETING AM JANUARY 29 DISCUSSED SPECIFIC DETAILS IN US TEXT THAT ARE OPEN FOR SUBSEQUENT DEFINITION. SOVIETS STATED THAT FORMAT "NOT A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE." OTHER QUESTIONS DISCUSSED WERE WHO "USES" EQUIPMENT (TIMERBAEV SAID SOVIET LANGUAGE INTENDED USE BY OBSERVERS), AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR VERIFICATION EXPENSES (TO BE DISCUSSED LATER).

6. US MADE BRIEF, GENERAL PRESENTATION ON SLIFER AND SEISMIC EQUIPMENT AT PLENARY MEETING JANUARY 30. SOVIETS EXPRESSED NO CONCERN OVER SIZE OR AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT; ONLY COMMENT WAS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHAT EQUIPMENT THERE IS IN ORDER TO INSURE NO UNAUTHORIZED INFORMATION WILL BE GAINED.

7. SLIFER LOCATION IN RELATION TO EXPLOSIVE CANISTER DISCUSSED IN PLENARY MEETING JANUARY 30. DURING DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED THAT US WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SLIFER
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PLACEMENT FORMULA OF TWO TIMES CUBE ROOT OF YIELD FROM CENTER OF CANISTER FOR A CANISTER LENGTH NOT MORE THAN 10 METERS, AND SOVIETS AGREED SERIOUSLY CONSIDER DROPPING REQUIREMENT FOR MINIMUM STAND-OFF OF FIVE METERS SOVIETS INTERESTED IN SWITCH ALTERNATIVE IF SWITCH CAN BE PROVIDED BY PARTY CARRYING OUT EXPLOSION. QUESTION OF CANISTER LENGTH GREATER THAN TEN METERS, WHICH SOVIETS SAID IS RARE, TO BE DISCUSSED IN A FEW DAYS.

STOESSEL

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